Sabbath Evening, March 2, D 1828

Affectionate Friend,

That several weeks has now passed away without any correspondence with each other, I hope cannot be justly attributed to the cause, that our attachment, is in any degree lessened. perhaps you may have neglected writing, with the light excuse that you first claimed a letter from me. Though I trust you must have had a more valid apology than this to have remained thus long, silent. In regard to myself I feel rather guilty. but my plea is, having been very busily employed this term, together with deffering it for the purpose of having more agreeable news respecting College.

You probably often look forward to the time when you will be connected with this institution. for my own part I anticipate it with much pleasure. when our intercourse may not be obstructed by distance, nor our communications need to be conveyed by epistles, and when our exchange of feeling may be more free and more frequent. The Freshman Class have advanced as far in Livy, as nearly through the 4th book; in Algebra to quadratic equations, and about 20 pages in Majora, beginning at Xenophon. They think their lessons in Algebra very long, many of them are not able to get out their appointed tasks. I suspect they find an abundance of work to employ themselves in at present. I think our studies the two first terms last year much harder than they have been thus far this. Though studying at home, and not having so much time broken up, you doubtless find them easier. S. Hart came down two or three weeks ago, again to pursue his studies, in this high privileged seat of learning. and it was highly gratifying to me to hear he expects to teach the academy in P[illegible], a year at least.

You have probably heard something respecting college, in respect to its prospects in a religious point of view. Several of the professors of religion as well as other members of College remained here during the last vacation. During this time an unusual anxiety commenced in Christians in town for the interest of this Institution. and a spirit of ardent prayer that it might be blessed with an outpouring of the holy spirit. About the same time a similar anxious solicitude for a revival of religion here, was experienced by the members of the theological Institution in Andover. That this peculiar excitement should be made in these two bands of christians so far distant and entirely unacquainted with each others feelings, seemed very providential. Favoured with these auspicious omens, the term commenced, and as the bretheren assembled, hearing that others were thus engaged for them and seeing a few of the church who had remained here somewhat enlivened it could not but have some effects upon the feelings of the w church. This feeling among christians generally in college has if any th gradually increasing and is so at present. Although some a even now as it were almost indifferent, there are others w appear as if though they cannot yield, cannot remain satisfied until the blessing is granted, until here there is a powerful revival of religion. There are two or three considerable anxious for their immortal welfare, and there is a solemnity a kind of excitement in several, rather fearful of what is going to take place here, as is often the case at such times. At the beginning of this term we did indulge the fond hope that before this time we should see Multitudes here flocking to Christ, and becoming willing and devoted followers of the meek and lowly Jesus. But alas! our expectations have not as yet been gratified, though still all the bretheren are looking for the fulfilment of their hopes and wishes, and some of them as it were with sure confidence.

That the blessing of the Lord has not yet been granted us is not without some cause. And when we seek for the reason of it, and observe christians in other places ardently engaged for us here, to what can it be attributed, but to our coldness, and want of engagedness in the cause. Could christians feel the worth of but one immortal soul methinks their constant prayers and exertions would be exercised for its welfare. But for a revival of religion, for the salvation of many souls how would their concern and their labours be encreased. The rich blessing of an outpouring of the holy Ghost upon any people, or any assembly is one, the benefit and fruit of which we cannot fully prize. How much more is it them beyond the capacities of mortals, sufficiently to value a revival of religion in a literary institution, since in these we are to estimate not merely the rescue of the souls of those who are subjects of the revival, from eternal pain and sorrow; but the salvation of thousands more, whom they by their labours in the world may be the happy instruments of effecting. Are they valued think you in any proportion to their real worth. and are not revivals in these fountains of learning as it were overlooked, and but little thought of and remembered in the prayers of christians. I suppose you have heard of the day of fasting and prayer, observed last thursday by all who love the cause of the Redeemer, in the various Institutions in this country together with some other congregations, for the special blessing of God upon our seats of learning. I understand this was first proposed by some of the student in Andover. It is sincerely to be hoped that it may not prove ineffectual, and that it may be accepted of the Lord. This is a critical period with this college in regard to a revival. This subject needs your prayers, as well as of all the Redeemers friends. I trust you will daily remember us here, and endeavour to excite your brethren about you to wrestle in prayer to God for the promotion of his cause in this college.

Intelligence from the academy at Andover is indeed joyful. nearly all the students there, are preparing for an entrance in some of the colleges in our land. It being now vacation here, one of the Instructors a graduate from this Institution was here last Sabbath, and gave an account of the revival there. There was before a great proportion of the scholars professors of religion. half of the others have already been hopefully brought into the kingdom of christ, and there were not one of the remainder, he said, but could be affected to tears, when addressed on the subject of religion. The Lord is verily doing great things for Zion, in view of which, may our hearts be sincerely rejoiced.

Yours Affectionately; E. B. Tillotson.

Miss. A. L. Hall's
Farmington
Conn

E. B. Tillotson.